

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0031] on page 5 with the following amended paragraph:

[0031] ~~Figures 8A and 8B~~**Figure 8** is an illustration of the full-length DNA (SEQ ID NO:26) and corresponding deduced amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:36) of Aquifex pyrophilus-28LC.

Please replace paragraph [0034] on page 5 with the following amended paragraph:

[0034] ~~Figures 11A and 11B~~**Figure 11** is an illustration of the full-length DNA (SEQ ID NO:29) and corresponding deduced amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:39) of Aquifex VF5-34LC.